

Delta Plan Ecosystem Amendment

November 5, 2018



The Delta Reform Act 2009 provides goals, strategies for protecting, restoring and enhancing the Delta Ecosystem:

- **Coequal Goals**
- **Target Characteristics:**
 - Viable populations of native resident and migratory species
 - Functional corridors for migratory species
 - Diverse and biologically appropriate habitats for ecosystem process
 - Reduced threats and stresses on the Delta Ecosystem
 - Conditions conducive to meeting or exceeding recovery plans and salmon doubling goals
- **Strategies to achieve characteristics:**
 - Restore large areas of interconnected habitats within the Delta and its watershed by 2100.
 - Establish migratory corridors for fish, birds, and other ecosystems.
 - Improve water quality for drinking, ag, and ecosystem
 - Restore habitat necessary to avoid a net loss of migratory bird habitat and, where feasible, increase migratory bird habitat to promote viable populations of migratory birds.
- **Use best available science**
- **Quantified or measurable targets**
- **Science-based, transparent, and formal adaptive management strategy**

Delta Plan Chapter 4 Provides a Vision for a Restored Delta:

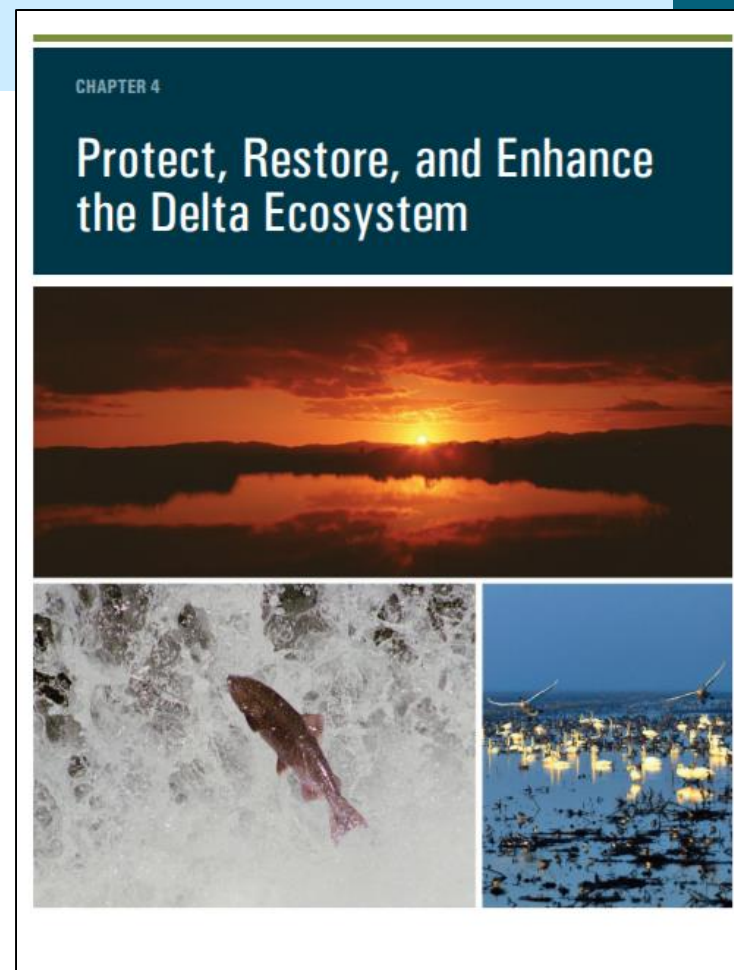
“Achieving the coequal goal of ecosystem protection, restoration, and enhancement means successfully establishing **a resilient, functioning estuary and surrounding terrestrial landscape capable of supporting viable populations of native resident and migratory species with diverse and biologically appropriate habitats, functional corridors, and ecosystem processes.**”



What's Currently in the Delta Plan?

Core Strategies

- Create more natural functional flows
- Restore habitat
- Improve water quality to protect the ecosystem
- Prevent introduction of and manage non-native species impacts
- Improve hatcheries and harvest management

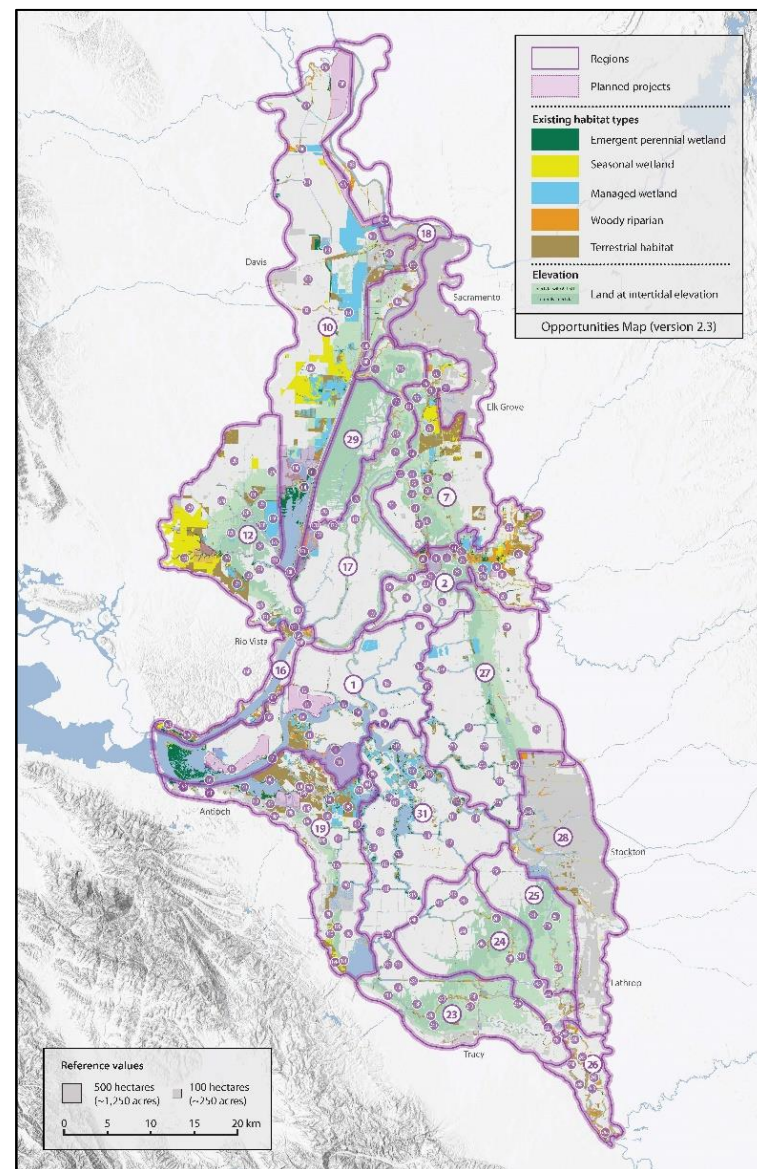


Regulatory policy and recommendation framework that provides high-level restoration guidance (e.g., ER P2, Appendix 3) & focuses on the protection of opportunities for ecosystem restoration

Updating the Delta Plan to Achieve the Vision

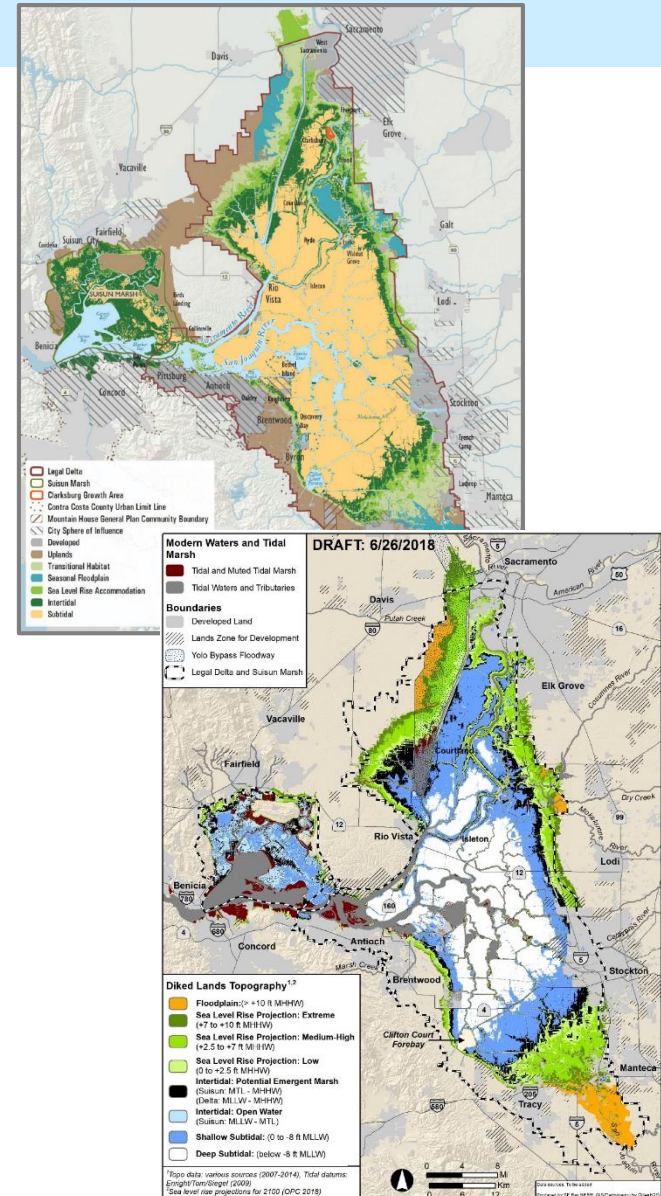
Regulatory policy and recommendations which guide and align ecosystem restoration planning activities and public funding:

- **What:** Priority restoration actions & conservation targets focused on ecosystem uplift
- **Where:** Regional land-use/land ownership and landscape suitability
- **When:** 2030, 2050, 2100

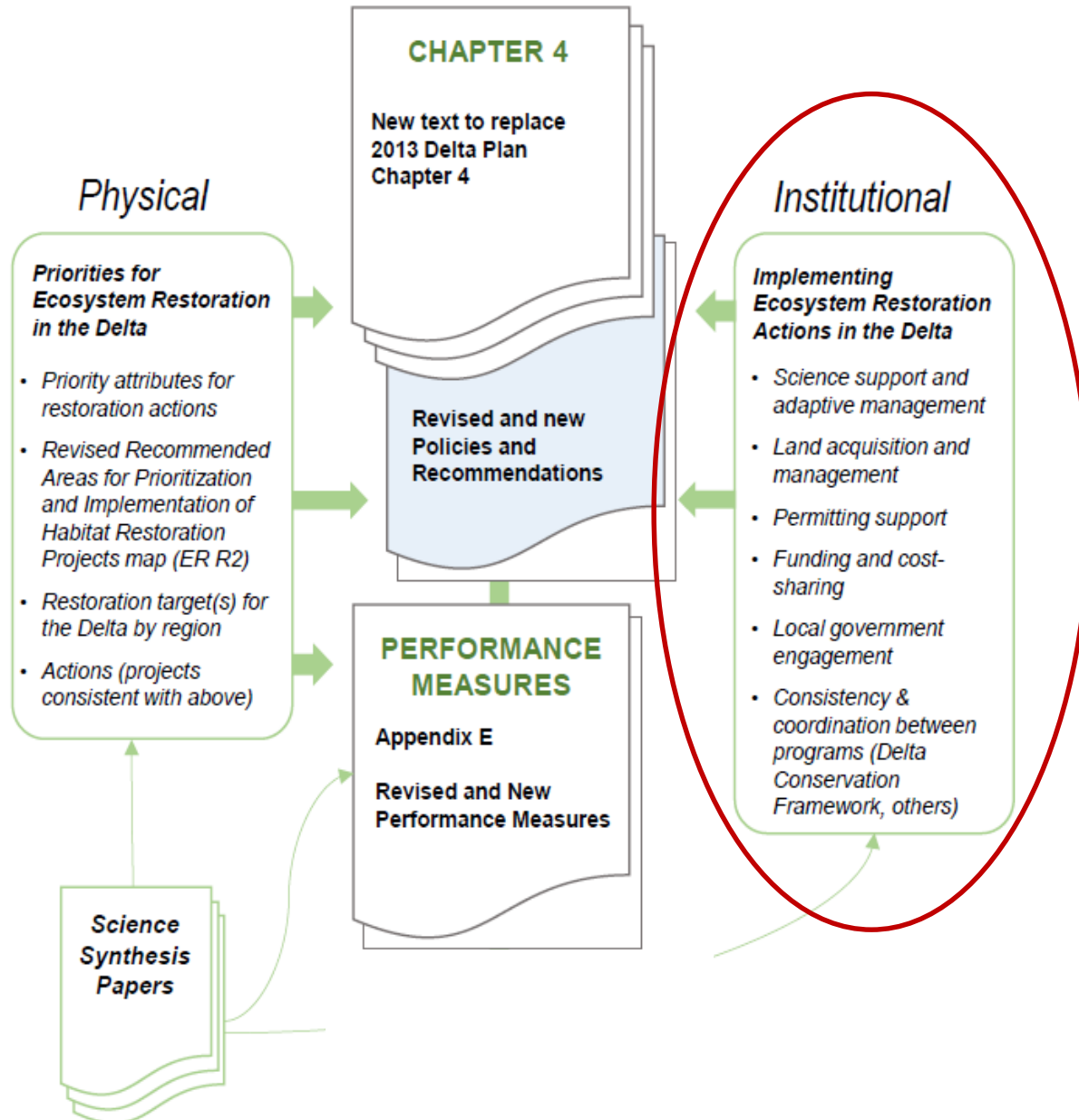


A Path Forward: Policy Approaches

- Achieve the Delta Reform Act vision for the ecosystem – Go beyond mitigation
- Emphasize ecosystem function
- Address sea-level rise and subsidence
- Leverage recovery and conservation plans
- Identify restoration/conservation opportunity regions

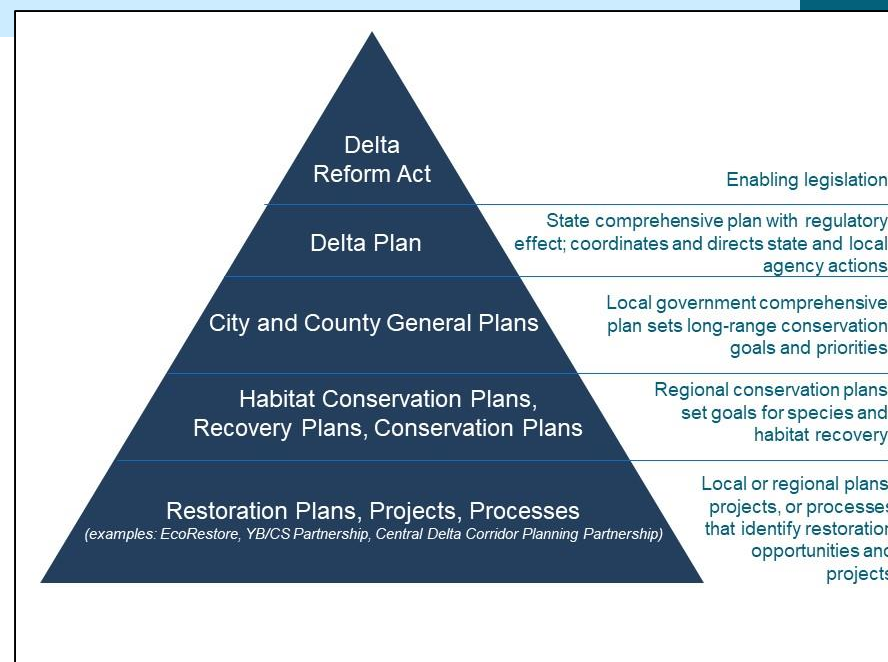


Ecosystem Amendment Blueprint



Opportunities to Address Institutional Barriers

- **Long-term funding for restoration**
- **Permitting efficiency**
- **Land management**
- **Science support and adaptive management**



What of these issues are the highest priority to resolve in the short-term?

Which are best suited for continued multi-agency discussion?

Ecosystem Amendment – Current Schedule

- **November 2018** – Council meeting discussion on proposed institutional regulatory policies, recommendations, and performance measures
- **January 2019** – Council meeting discussion on Public Draft Ecosystem Amendment; Public comment period on Draft Ecosystem Amendment
- **February 2019** – Public workshop on Draft Ecosystem Amendment
- **March 2019** – Council meeting and project description approval
- **March – Fall 2019** – CEQA including public comment and meetings

Discussion